

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-15 are presently pending in this case. Claims 1, 3, 12, and 13 are amended and new Claims 14 and 15 are added by the present amendment. As amended Claims 1, 3, 12, and 13 and new Claims 14 and 15 are supported by the original disclosure,¹ no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Official Action, Claims 1, 5, 10, and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by Alsop et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 20030077561, hereinafter "Alsop"); and Claims 2-4, 6-9, 11, and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Alsop in view of Tanio (U.S. Patent No. 5,930,389).

With regard to the rejection of Claims 1 and 12 as anticipated by Alsop, that rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended Claim 1 recites in part:

an image data converting unit configured to convert a format of image data from a first format to a second format, said first format and said second format each being one of NFC1, K4, K8, JPEG, RJ2K, a four-value format, a binary format, an eight-value format, and an MH/MR/MMR format, ***said image data converting unit further configured to resize the image data by increasing or decreasing the linear dimensions of the image.***

Alsop describes a Web server 100 for printable whiteboards. The outstanding Office Action conceded that Web server 100 of Alsop does not teach or suggest resizing image data as recited in original Claim 3, and cited Tanio as describing this feature.² However, it is respectfully submitted that Tanio only describes using the joint capacity of two memories to save a larger size original than can be saved in a single memory. Thus, unoriginal of A4 size

¹See, e.g., the specification at page 21, lines 22-24.

²See the outstanding Office Action at page 7, lines 1-14.

is **not** expanded to A3 size by the device described by Tanio. In fact, it is respectfully submitted that Tanio does not describe any device configured to resize image data by increasing or decreasing the linear dimensions of the image as recited in amended Claim 1. Thus, even a combination of Alsop and Tanio does teach or suggest “an image data converting unit” as defined in amended Claim 1. Consequently, Claim 1 (and Claims 2-11, 14, and 15 dependent therefrom) is patentable over Alsop in view of Tanio.

Amended Claim 12 recites in part “resizing the image data by increasing or decreasing the linear dimensions of the image.” As noted above, the outstanding Office Action conceded that Alsop does not teach or suggest this feature, and Tanio does not describe resizing image data by increasing or decreasing linear dimensions of an image. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that a combination of Alsop and Tanio does not teach “resizing the image data” as defined in amended Claim 12. Consequently, Claim 12 is also patentable over Alsop in view of Tanio.

With regard to the rejection of Claims 13 as unpatentable over Alsop in view of Tanio, that rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended Claim 13 recites in part “each of the image data converting units further configured to resize the image data by increasing or decreasing the linear dimensions of the image.” As noted above, the outstanding Office Action conceded that Alsop does not teach or suggest this feature, and Tanio does not describe any device configured to resize image data by increasing or decreasing linear dimensions of an image. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the proposed combination does not teach “image data converting units” as defined in amended Claim 13. Consequently, Claim 13 is also patentable over Alsop in view of Tanio.

Finally, new Claims 14 and 15 are supported at least by the specification at page 21, lines 22-24. As new Claims 14 and 15 are dependent from Claim 1, new Claims 14 and 15

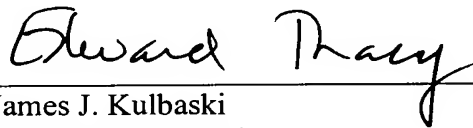
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are patentable for at least the reasons described above with respect to this claim. In addition, new Claims 14 and 15 recite subject matter that is not taught or suggested by Alsop in view of Tanio. Consequently, new Claims 14 and 15 further define over Alsop in view of Tanio.

Accordingly, the pending claims are believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



James J. Kulbaski
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 34,648

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 08/07)

Edward W. Tracy, Jr.
Registration No. 47,998

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